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Venezuela: Shooting, Explosion Heard Near Presidential Palace

PA0402142292 Paris AFP in Spanish 1400 GMT 4 Feb 92

[Text] Caracas, 4 Feb (AFP) -- Shooting and an explosion were heard once again at 1400 GMT in the vicinity of the Miraflores Presidential Palace, from where dozens of civilians were running, AFP has witnessed.

At the same time, the police are dispersing with tear gas the civilians who were meeting at the Bolivar Plaza (in downtown Caracas) to sing the national anthem.

Although the government announced that the military rebels who had seized the La Carlota city airport had surrendered, residents of the area told AFP that shooting resumed at 1330 GMT.

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